written complaints'. May I know whether there was any representation?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—There was some representation to me some months back. I think last year some people came to me and told me that there were some hardships. I never reported that matter to the Government, but I thought of inquiring into the nature of the complaints when I had time to go to those places and no further action was taken. Some complaint was made to me.

Irrigation facilities.

93. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many petitions were received by the Government and the Chief Engineer in the last 2 years to afford irrigation facilities;

(b) of these what items of work by the end of last year (1) were completed;

(2) were not completed but undertaken;

(3) were sanctioned but not undertaken;

(4) were investigated but not sanctioned; and

(5) what items are pending investigation?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—(a) To answer the question a very large number of files have to be gone through, and the Government do not think that the time and labour involved in collecting the information is commensurate with the purpose to be served.

(b) (1). A list showing the items of works completed by the P. W. D. is appended (*vide Appendix I*).

(2) Items 1, 10, 29 and 32 of the appendix.

(3) Repairs to the Vellichira and construction of sluice for Kuruthical chira.

(4) Opening of canal from Alapad to Chazhur, Amballur-Scheme (Konath River Scheme) Keelithodu Scheme and the Pallisseri and Marathakara diversions of the Karuvannur Scheme.

(5) Opening of an irrigation canal in Alur Village, opening of a canal east of Vettikadavu, Thanikudam Scheme and Chalakkudi Scheme.

Pay of the temporary staff in the Irrigation Department.

94. Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether it was a fact that the Karkadagam pay of the temporary staff (maistries and watchmen) of the Irrigation Department, Chittur, was not disbursed as yet, 5th Kanni 1105

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(2) if so, why was the delay;

(3) when were the Karkadagam and Chingam pays of the staff (Assistant Engineer, Overseer, etc.) of the Irrigation Department, Chittur, drawn;

(4) when was the pay of the temporary staff drawn?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—(1) Yes.

(2) After checking the bill it was possible to issue cheque in payment only on 28th Chingam 1105. The cheque was cashed by the Irrigation Overseer and payment made on the 13th and 14th of Kanni 1105.

(3) The Karkadagam pay of the Assistant Engineer's staff was drawn on Chingam 6, 1105, and that of the rest on Chingam 3, 1105. The Chingam pay of all was drawn on the 28th of Chingam 1105.

(4) Chingam 28, 1105.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—Why was there a delay of two weeks for paying them after the drawing of the pay?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—A cheque was drawn on 28th Chingam, and it must have been sent to the Irrigation Department immediately. Probably there must have been holidays, otherwise it would have been cashed immediately and disbursed. The holidays must have intervened on account of *Pujaveypu*.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—The pay was drawn on 28th Chingam. The payment was made only on the 13th or 14th of Kanni. There is a delay of two weeks.

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—The cheque was drawn on 28th Chingam, not the *money*. The payment was made by cheque.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—When was the pay of the temporary staff drawn?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—The cheque was issued only on 28th Chingam. It must have been sent to the Assistant Engineer and it would have been possible to cash the cheque only on 13th or 14th Kanni because holidays intervened.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—The answer is clear that the pay was drawn on 28th Chingam, not the cheque.

President.—They cannot draw before the month is over.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—It is Karkadagam pay.

President.—There were the Onam holidays. We sanctioned the payment of the amount before the close of the month. It was disbursed on 28th Chingam. I do not follow you.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—The pay was given only on 14th of Kanni.

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President.—It must have been drawn. The Onam holidays intervened and, therefore, the Government sanctioned the drawing of the pay before the expiry of the month. So you had the money ready. Why did you delay the payment till 13th or 14th of Kanni?

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—That benefit was never extended to them.

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—It is not the case of the Chingam pay. It is the case of the Karkadagam pay that is the subject matter of the question. The cheque for the payment of the Karkadagam pay was drawn only on 28th Chingam.

President.—What was the delay due to? It should be immediately drawn after the expiry of the month. Why did you not pay till 28th Chingam? The delay is pretty long. We were nearing the end of the next month.

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—It was not possible to issue the cheque.

President.—The point is the Karkadagam pay was drawn only on 28th Chingam. Whose fault was that? Is it that there was a delay in the office? Is it at the Head office or the subordinate office?

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—I cannot say which.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—There has been a very long delay.

President.—You will take care that these are avoided.

Mr. M. D. Narayana Ayyar.—Yes, Sir. The delay is admitted.

Sale of teak from Ernakulam Depot.

95. **Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.**—(1) (a). Will the Government be pleased to state whether 180 candies of teak were sold to Mr. V. K. Ammunni Menon from the Ernakulam Depot within the last 4 years; and

(b) what were the conditions of the sale;

(2) whether the Conservator of Forests reduced the price in the settlement of accounts from Rs. 35 to Rs. 17 per candy; if so, was the Diwan's sanction obtained for the same and (3) when was the timber sold to him after this; if so, how much and at what price?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(1) (a) Yes.

(b) The timber taken charge of should be fully paid for and removed before the end of one month from date of delivery.

(2) (a) and (b). No information on the points referred to can be furnished now.

(3) *In Karkadagam 1102.*

Candies 143-4-5-0½ of teak at Rs. 34 a candy.

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